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ABSTRACT

This 15-minute VHS videotape introduces an interdisciplinary math, science, and language arts project for eighth grade. Students learn about and apply laws of motion, linear functions, and technical reporting as they design and present an ultimate roller coaster. The project is organized in five phases that generate knowledge about design principles of roller coasters: Phase 1: Accessing prior knowledge about roller coasters; Phase 2: Investigating content-specific skills and knowledge with experiments in math and science that build understanding about force and the laws of motion; Phase 3: Expanding knowledge of roller coaster design with research and further experimenting related to roller coasters; Phase 4: Applying new knowledge to the design and construction of a roller coaster model; and Phase 5: Contributing knowledge to a group roller coaster design in one of four careers--engineering, architecture, research, or public relations. The materials featured in the video are available at the Intel Innovation in Education World Wide Web site: http://www.intel.com/education. (MES)

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